Amendment to Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Structural column structure comprising

a first elongate, hollow and tubular column section having a first defined-size cross section, and

a second elongate, hollow and tubular column section having a second defined-size cross section which generally matches in character, but is smaller than, said first defined-size cross section, with said second section having a length portion which is telescopically and nestingly fittingly received within a length portion of said first section, thus to produce a moment connection between the two sections, and wherein said second elongate, hollow and tubular column section is receivable along a majority of its length in said first elongate, hollow and tubular column section and is extendable therefrom to an extended condition .

Claim 2. (ORIGINAL) The column structure of claim 1, wherein said length portions are the same, and are lesser in size relative to the overall lengths of the respective, associated column sections, and said sections are anchored to one another against relative motion between the sections, whereby the overall length of the column structure is step-tapered from one end to the other.

Claim 3. (ORIGINAL) The column structure of claim 1, wherein each of said cross

sections is generally square in configuration.

Claim 4. (ORIGINAL) The column structure of claim 2, wherein each of said cross sections is generally square in configuration.

Claim 5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A multi-story building frame structure comprising

plural, elongate, upright and laterally spaced columns, each including plural, elongate, hollow and tubular, telescopically interrelated and nested sections which have differently sized overall cross sections, and with respect to which vertically next-adjacent sections longitudinally overlap one another with one section disposed inside the other to establish moment connections between each two such next-adjacent sections, wherein said nested sections are receivable along a majority of their length in a next larger nested section to facilitate transport, and wherein said nested sections are telescopically extended and fastened to adjacent nested sections for final assembly thereof,

anchoring zones defined on the outsides of the larger cross-section column sections in each region of such longitudinal overlap between vertically next-adjacent column sections, and

plural, elongate, generally horizontally disposed beams extending between laterally next-adjacent columns, and having ends anchored to a spaced pair of said anchoring zones.

Claim 6. (NEW) A method of fabricating a multi-story building frame structure comprising

assembling plural, elongate column sections into a column structure, including combining a first column section, having a known cross section, wherein the cross section has a first defined internal cross section, with a second column section having a cross section matching the character of the first column cross section, and which has a second defined external cross section which is clearance fittable into the first column section, and which has a second defined internal cross section, and wherein a third, and subsequent, column section is nestable within a next larger column sections,

inserting, telescopically along a majority of each column sections' length, the second column section into the first column section and inserting subsequently smaller column sections sequentially into next larger column sections to form column structures in nested conditions,

transporting nested condition column structures from an assembly location to a building site,

securing a first column section to a foundation or to a building frame structure, and

extending a nested condition column structure to an extended condition and securing an extended column section to a next larger column section, wherein a pre-defined longitudinal overlap remains between adjacent column sections.

Claim 7. (NEW) The method of claim 6 which includes defining anchoring zones on

the outsides of the larger cross-section column sections in each region of such longitudinal overlap between vertically next-adjacent column sections, and anchoring plural, elongate, generally horizontally disposed beams extending between laterally next-adjacent column structures.

Claim 8. (NEW) The method of claim 6 wherein the column sections are rectangular in cross section.